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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/083,785	02/25/2002	Howard W. DeMoore	4040-02800	5468

30652 7590 05/24/2004

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EXAMINER

CRENSHAW, MARVIN P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 05/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/083,785

Applicant(s)

DEMOORE ET AL.

Examiner

Marvin P. Crenshaw

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on the RCE filed 4/12/2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 36 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35, 37, 38, 41-44, 50, 51 and 56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 39, 40, 45-49 and 52 - 55 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) Z.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 36 is allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claim Objections

Claims 39, 40, 45, 46 – 49 and 52 – 55 are objected to because of the following informalities: With respect to applicant's claims of having the flexible jacket covering stitched to the cylinder jacket covering conflict with the required language of permanently attaching. Since stitching can be removed it is not a permanent attachment means. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 45, 46 and 52 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the above objection(s) set forth in this Office action.

Claims 39, 40, 47 – 49, 51 and 53 – 55 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the above objection(s) set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 39, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including an integrated cover wherein the flexible jacket covering is permanently attaches to the cylinder base cover by stitching.

With respect to claim 40, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including an integrated cover wherein the flexible jacket covering is permanently attached to the cylinder base cover by stitching and adhesive.

With respect to claim 45, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including an integrated, anti-marking cover for a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press comprising a flexible jacket covering stitched, mechanically fastened or combinations thereof to a cylinder base jacket.

With respect to claim 46, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including an integrated anti-marking cover for a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press comprising a flexible jacket covering stitched to a cylinder base cover.

With respect to claim 47, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a integrated cover wherein the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base cover are stitched along their edges.

With respect to claim 48, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including an integrated cover further comprising the flexible jacket covering adhered to the cylinder base cover.

With respect to claim 49, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including an integrated cover further comprising a flexible jacket

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covering adhered to the cylinder base cover wherein the flexible jacket covering and the cylinder base cover are stitched and adhered along their edges.

With respect to claim 52, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a method of manufacturing an integrated anti-marking cover for a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press comprising stitching a flexible jacket covering to a cylinder base covering.

With respect to claim 53, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a method wherein the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base cover are stitched along their edges.

With respect to claim 54, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a method further comprising adhering the flexible jacket covering to the cylinder base cover.

With respect to claim 55, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a method further comprising adhering the flexible jacket covering to the cylinder base cover, wherein the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base cover are stitched and adhered along their edges.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 – 4, 18, 19, 30 – 32, 35, 37, 38, 41 - 44, 50, 51 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Greene (4,694,750).

Greene teaches an integrated, anti-marking cover (Fig. 3) for a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press comprising a flexible jacket (36) covering permanently attached (See col. 5, lines 50 – 63) to a cylinder base cover (30) wherein "permanently attached" means that the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base cover, where so attached, do not separate without damaging one or the other.

With respect to claim 2, Greene teaches an integrated cover (Fig. 3) wherein the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base are aligned and permanently attached (See col. 5, lines 50 - 63) along their edges.

With respect to claim 3 and 31, Greene teaches the integrated cover (Fig. 3) wherein the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base cover are permanently attached along their edges by means for permanently attaching (See col. 5, lines 50 – 63).

With respect to claim 4 and 32, Greene teaches the integrated cover wherein means for permanently attaching include adhesives (See col. 5, lines 50 – 63).

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With respect to claim 18 and 19, Greene teaches the integrated cover further comprising means for releasably attaching (See col. 5, lines 34 - 44) the integrated cover to the transfer cylinder.

With respect to claim 30, Greene teaches a method of manufacturing an integrated anti-marking cover (Fig. 3) for a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press, comprising permanently attaching (See col. 5, lines 50 - 63) a flexible jacket (36) covering to a cylinder base cover (30).

With respect to claim 35, Greene teaches a method for attaching an integrated anti-marking cover (Fig. 3) to a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press, comprising supplying an integrated cover comprising a flexible jacket (36) covering permanently attached to a cylinder base cover (30) and releasably attaching (See col. 5, lines 34 - 44) the integrated cover to the transfer cylinder using means for releasably attaching.

With respect to claim 37, Greene teaches a method for supporting a processed substrate in a rotary printing press (Fig. 1) comprising supplying an integrated, anti-marking cover (Fig. 3) comprising a flexible jacket covering (36) permanently attached (See col. 5, lines 50 - 63) to a cylinder base cover, releasably attaching (See col. 5, lines 34 - 44) the integrated cover to the transfer cylinder using means for releasably attaching and operating the printing press to process substrates, the substrates being supported by the integrated cover during the operation of the printing press.

With respect to claim 38, Greene teaches an integrated cover wherein the flexible jacket covering (36) is permanently attached to the cylinder base cover (30) by permanent adhesive (See col. 5, lines 50 - 63).

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With respect to claim 41, Greene teaches a method wherein the flexible jacket covering is permanently attached to the cylinder hose cover by permanent adhesive (See col. 5, lines 50 – 63).

With respect to claim 42, Greene teaches a method wherein the flexible jacket covering is permanently attached (See col. 5, lines 50 – 63) to the cylinder base cover by permanent adhesive.

With respect to claim 43, Greene teaches a method wherein the flexible jacket covering is permanently attached to the cylinder base cover by permanent adhesive (See col. 5, lines 50 – 63).

With respect to claim 44, Greene teaches an integrated, anti-marking cover for a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press (Fig. 3), comprising a flexible jacket covering (36) permanently attached (See col. 5, lines 50 – 63) to a cylinder base cover (30) by permanent adhesive.

With respect to claim 50, Greene teaches an integrated, anti-marking cover for a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press, comprising a flexible jacket covering (36) permanently (See col. 5, lines 50 – 63) adhered to a cylinder base cover (30).

With respect to claim 51, Greene teaches the integrated cover wherein the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base cover are adhered along their edges (Fig. 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5 – 10, 13 – 17, 20 – 29, 33 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greene in view of DeMoore et al (6,244,178).

Greene teaches all that is claimed in the above rejection as discussed in claims 1 – 4, 18, 19, 30 – 32, 35, 37, 38, 41 - 44, 50, and 51, except for the integrated cover having a predetermined amount of movement, a weft and warp direction, the cylinder base cover is conductive, a layer of PTFE, releasable attaching means that is adhesive and alignment stripes.

With respect to claims 5 – 10, DeMoore et al. teaches the integrated cover (Fig. 3) wherein the flexible jacket covering is sized such that in areas not permanently attached to the cylinder base cover, a predetermined amount of movement (See col. 10, lines 61 - 65) of the flexible jacket covering is permitted relative to the cylinder base cover, the integrated cover (See col. 10, lines 61 - 65) wherein movement in the weft direction is about 1/16 to 4 inches (1.6 to 101.6 mm) and movement in the warp direction is about 1/32 to 1 inch (0.8 to 25.4 mm), the integrated cover wherein the cylinder base cover is conductive (See Col. 11, lines 37 - 39), the integrated cover wherein the conductive cylinder base cover further comprises a layer of PTFE (57) adhered to a layer of polyester (See col. 8, lines 59 - 65), the PTFE layer facing the flexible jacket, the integrated cover wherein the flexible jacket covering comprises a flexible fabric material having spaced conductive strands (Fig. 14), the integrated cover wherein the releasably

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attaching means includes adhesive (59 and 61), the integrated cover further comprising means (110) for aligning the integrated cover for attachment to the transfer cylinder, the integrated cover wherein the alignment means (110) are contrasting alignment stripes in the flexible jacket covering, the integrated cover wherein the alignment means (See col. 8, lines 1 - 12) further comprise at least one center alignment mark on the gripper edge, the tail edge or both and the integrated cover wherein the contrasting alignment stripes are the conductive strands (Fig. 14). It would have been obvious to modify Greene to have the integrated cover having a predetermined amount of movement, a weft and warp direction, the cylinder base cover is conductive, a layer of PTFE, releasable attaching means is adhesive and alignment stripes as taught by DeMoore et al.

With respect to claim 13, Greene teaches the integrated cover further comprises at least one hole (Fig. 2) therein.

With respect to claim 20 and 21, Greene teaches the integrated cover further comprising means for releasably attaching (See col. 5, lines 34 - 44) the integrated cover to the transfer cylinder.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greene in view of DeMoore et al. and further in view of Okuda et al.

Greene as modified by DeMoore et al. teaches all that is claimed in the above rejection as discussed in claims 1 - 4, 18, 19, 30 - 32, 35, 37, 38, 41 - 44, 50, and 51, except for the integrated cover wherein the PTFE layer has a smooth surface portion.

Okuda et al. teaches a PTFE layer having a smooth (See Col. 6, lines 48 - 56) surface portion. It would have been obvious to further modify the integrated cover of Greene to

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have a PTFE layer having a smooth surface portion as taught by Okuda et al. because it has a low coefficient of friction so that the cleaning blade can move smoothly to clean the cover.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greene in view of DeMoore et al. and further in view of Hannon.

Greene as modified by DeMoore et al. teaches all that is claimed in the above rejection as discussed in claims 1 – 4, 18, 19, 30 – 32, 35, 37, 38, 41 - 44, 50, and 51, except for the integrated cover wherein the PTFE layer has a textured surface. Hannon teaches a PTFE layer having a textured (See Col. 3, lines 58 - 65) surface. It would have been obvious to further modify Greene to have an integrated cover wherein the PTFE layer has a textured surface as taught by Hannon because the textured surface is very effective to retain print media thereon and therein.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed April 14, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Specifically, Greene has been added to teach the claimed language of having "permanent" attaching means. What applicant regards in the claim as "permanent" attachment means in the specification (See page 11, paragraph 0035) is met by Greene. He discloses this in his application means for attachment (See Col. 5, lines 50 - 63), which is within the requirements of what applicants, considers "permanent" attachment means.

Conclusion

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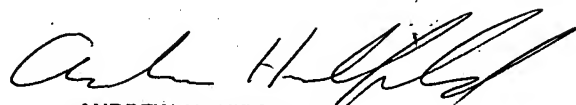
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marvin P. Crenshaw whose telephone number is (571) 272-2158. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:00 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MPC
May 15, 2004



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